
From: HJR153
Sent: Thursday, August 12, 2004 3:41 PM
To: HJR153
Subject: HJR153 - sam and harriet lapkin

Name: sam and harriet lapkin
Street: 6705 edmonstone ave
City, State, Zip: richmond VA 23226
Phone Number: 804-288-2190
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Utility Type: electric
Company Name: Dominion VA Power
Comments: SAM and HARRIET LAPKIN
6705 Edmonstone Avenue Richmond VA 23226

August 12, 2004

Division of Communications
Virginia State Corporation Commission
PO Box 1197
Richmond VA 23218
ATTN: Mr. Larry Kubrock

Dear Mr. Kubrock:

It was most reassuring to read in today's Richmond paper that improvement of our access to a continuous supply of electric power will be studied by the SCC. Repeated loss of power during storms, especially acute in our neighborhood, is truly a disgrace.

Isabel demonstrated that homes with underground power lines had their power restored very quickly, leading us to the conclusion that our power distribution system is in need of improvement, including relocation of individual lines underground. To spend \$1.6 billion after Isabel - for nothing more than restoration of power - is indeed a waste of money.

As I have already been advised by the SCC, this is an expensive proposition; but ignoring the problem is also expensive. Protecting our distribution of power could be funded by:

1. Making an effective approach to obtaining federal disaster funds.
2. Protecting substations and other distribution centers by enclosing them in protective structures or otherwise isolating them.
3. For each user who wishes to have his power lines moved underground:
 - a. Making a one-time charge of \$50 or so, and
 - b. Adding an additional charge of \$3 or \$4 to his monthly power bill, for as many months as needed to cover his share of the costs.

Surely, Dominion VA Power knows which are the hardest-hit areas for power interruption; these areas should be eligible for the earliest access to the program.

Yours very truly,

Samuel Lapkin
SAM and HARRIET LAPKIN
6705 Edmonstone Avenue
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